

Claims

1. A method of treating hypertension comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which is a Kiss-1 receptor antagonist.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said Kiss-1 receptor antagonist has an IC_{50} for the Kiss-1 receptor less than 100nM.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said Kiss-1 receptor antagonist is selective for the Kiss-1 receptor.
4. A method of screening for compounds useful for the treatment of hypertension, comprising screening compounds for antagonist activity against Kiss-1 receptor, and selecting compounds with an IC_{50} of less than 100 nM.
5. A process for providing a medicament for the treatment of hypertension, comprising the following steps:
 - (a) testing compounds in a ligand binding assay against the Kiss-1 receptor;
 - (b) selecting a compound with an IC_{50} of less than 100 nM;
 - (c) formulating a compound with the same structure as that selected in step (b), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
6. The process of claim 5, additionally comprising the following steps:
 - (a) packaging the formulation of step (c);
 - (b) making the package of step (d) available to a patient suffering from hypertension.
7. A process for providing a medicament for the treatment of hypertension, comprising the following steps:
 - (a) testing compounds in an assay, measuring the inhibition of the agonist-stimulated second messenger response of Kiss-1 receptors;
 - (b) selecting a compound with an IC_{50} of less than 100 nM;

- 5 contacting cells expressing Kiss-1 receptor on their surface and producing
a second messenger response in response to Kiss-1 or a Kiss-1 agonist,
or a membrane preparation of such cells, with both the compound and an
agonist of the Kiss-1 receptor, and with only the agonist, under conditions
suitable for activation of the Kiss-1 receptor, and measuring the second
messenger response in the presence of only the agonist for the Kiss-1
receptor and in the presence of the agonist and the compound, a smaller
change in the second messenger response in the presence of both
agonist and compound than in the presence of the agonist only indicating
10 that the compound inhibits the activation of the Kiss-1 receptor; and
(b) admixing said compound with a carrier.
12. A method of treating a blood pressure anomaly comprising administering to a
mammal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a
15 compound comprising a Kiss-1 receptor antagonist wherein said blood
pressure anomaly is hypertension or a Kiss-1 receptor agonist wherein said
blood pressure anomaly is hypotension.